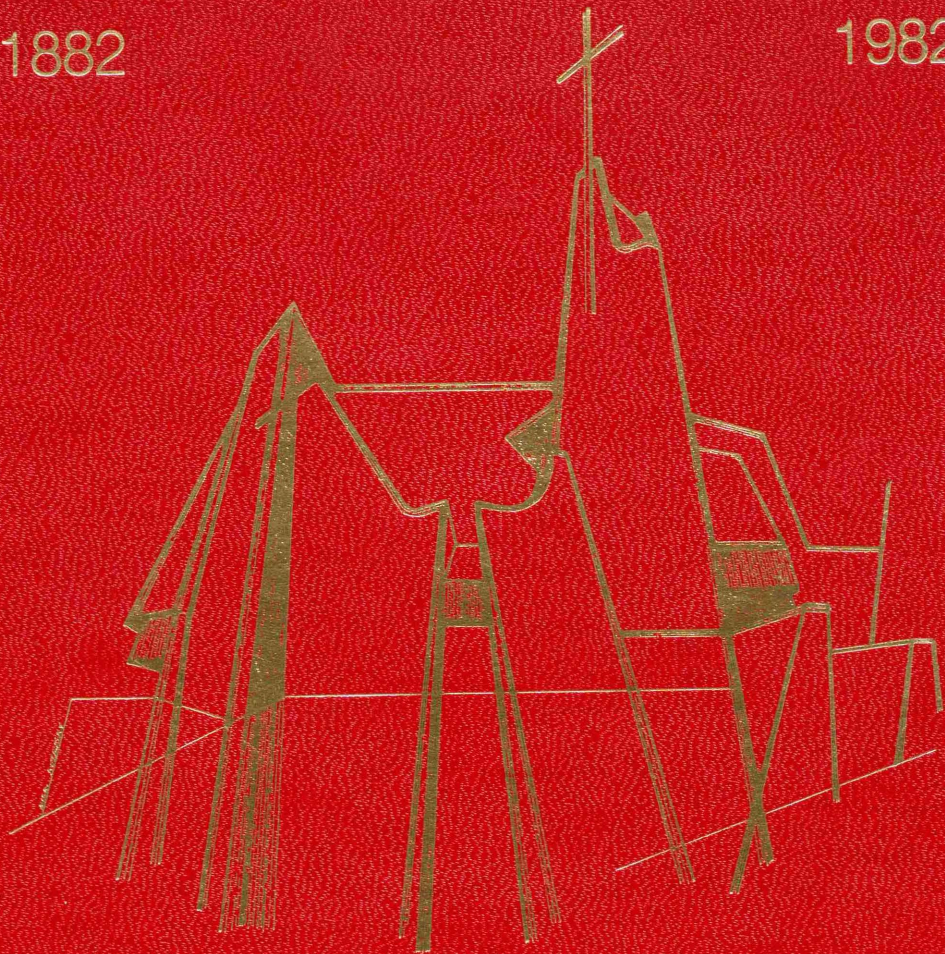


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

1882

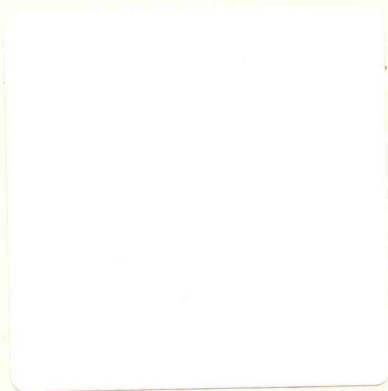
1982



Munster, Indiana

The congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church,
Munster, Indiana, is pleased to share the history
of its heritage, 1882-1982, with the patrons
of the Lake County Public Library.

Ronald Moritz, pastor
Edith D. Rich, historian



History Of 3 3113 02121 8617 St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Munster, Indiana

October 3, 1882-1982



1982

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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Praising God for St. Paul's First Century

The Early Years

A hundred years ago a small but determined group of German immigrant families laid the foundation in Hammond for our beloved St. Paul's, thus perpetuating the great traditions of Lutheranism brought from their homeland.

Turning back the pages of history we find the area of Hammond in 1850 one of marshes and sandy ridges. Founded by a German, Ernest Hohman, the area's cheap land attracted other German immigrants. Lutheranism in the region dates back to this time in the Hessville community. Here, in 1860, seven Lutheran families met in homes and were serviced as a "preaching station" by pastors from Dolton, Illinois.

With the advent of the slaughter house along the Calumet River, more German immigrants came to work as butchers and sausage makers. Hammond was growing as a rough frontier town. Devout Lutherans saw the need of a church in their midst. "Sixteen saloons, no church," said the women.

Spearheaded by Heinrich Kleeman (first recorded Lutheran in Hammond) and aided in 1871 by Jacob Rimbach and William Hartman, the first official service was held in the Rimbach home (corner of Hohman and Sibley Streets). Rev. Herman Wunderlich, of Tolleston, served the Hammond preaching stations as well as that of Hessville. Due to the small attendance, these services were discontinued and the Hammond Lutherans attended services in Hessville for practically the next decade.

In 1880, with a further increase in Lutheran immigrants, another effort was made to organize a church in Hammond, known as State Line in that era. This time, again under Pastor Wunderlich, they first met in the public school, then at Miller's Hall, and later at the residence of Gottlieb Muenich. On October 22, 1881, plans were drawn up for a church, a small frame building 24 x 28 feet, to be erected at the corner of Hohman and Rimbach Streets. Before its completion the building was moved to Clinton Street, just east of Hohman. The future Mayor, Marcus M. Towle, donated the lot. August Seestadt built the church. The church was dedicated July 29, 1883. Rev. Lange of Valparaiso and Rev. Feiertag of Colehout (now Bethlehem,

Eastside, Chicago) conducted the services. This was the third church to be built in the recently incorporated town of Hammond.

Meanwhile, during the building of the church, the process of congregational organization went on. The formal organization took place on October 3, 1882, at the home of Jacob Rimbach. The preamble to the constitution read: (1 Cor. 14:40) "Whereas in a Christian Congregation, according to God's Word, all things are to be done decently and in order, we, the undersigned, having united as an Evangelical Lutheran Church body to maintain Christian doctrine and life amongst us and extend them among others, do hereby adopt the following constitution, according to which all affairs of this Congregation, both Spiritual and material, shall be conducted."

Article I of the newly drawn constitution stated the name of the congregation, "St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church" (UAC), while Article II set forth the declaration of Creeds.

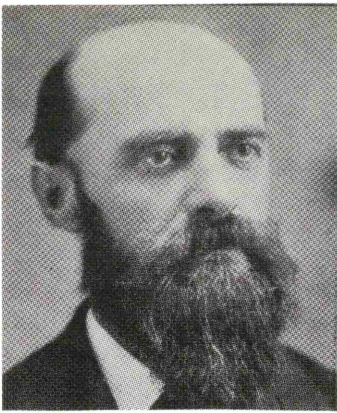
The sixteen founders who drew up the incorporation of St. Paul's Congregation were:

Paul Wieseke
Jacob Rimbach
Heinrich (Henry) Kleeman
John (Johann) Jarnecke
August Seestadt
Theodore Lange
Helmuth Hopp
Heinrich (Henry) Kuhn
C. Hocker
Wm. (Wilhelm) Hartmann
Gottlieb Muenich
Johann Dillner
Wilhelm Winter
Heinrich Krug
Franz Seestadt
Henry Seestadt

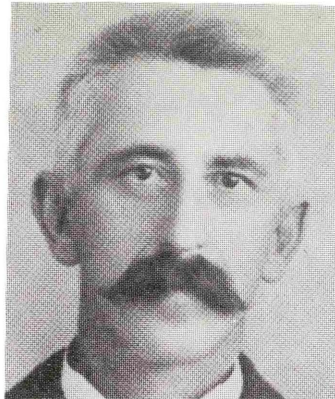
In the first meeting after the official organization of the congregation, the following joined: Henry Bachmann, Adam Ebert, Adolf Graves, Louis Vandrey, Martin Natke and Fritz Graves.

Two of the founders lived to celebrate both the 25th and 50th anniversaries of the church. They were William Hartmann and Adam Ebert. The latter served the congregation for 47 years;

PASTORS



The Rev. Herman Wunderlich
1878-1885



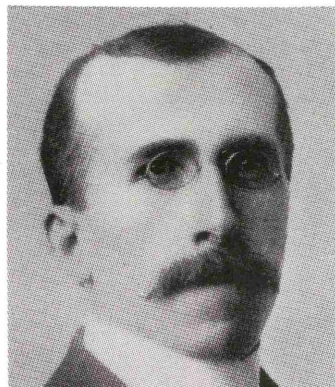
The Rev. G.F. Luebker
1885-1889



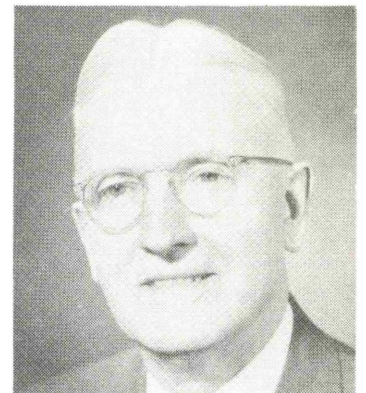
The Rev. F.W. Herzberger
1889-1899



The Rev. W.H.T. Dau
1899-1905



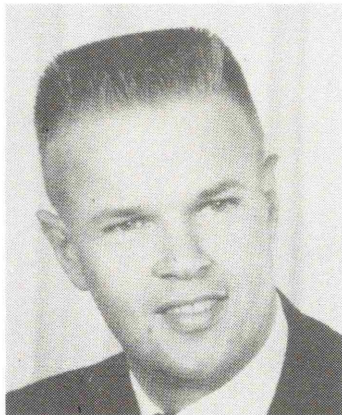
The Rev. Theo. Claus
1905-1918



The Rev. Walter F. Lichtsinn, D.D.
1918-1963 Pastor Emeritus



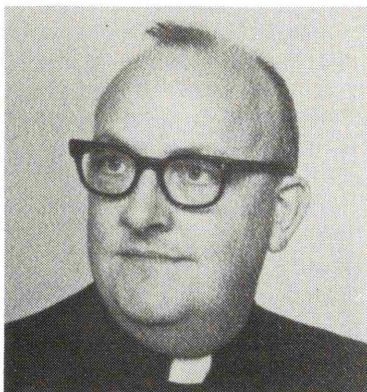
The Rev. Earl E. Weis
1954-1968



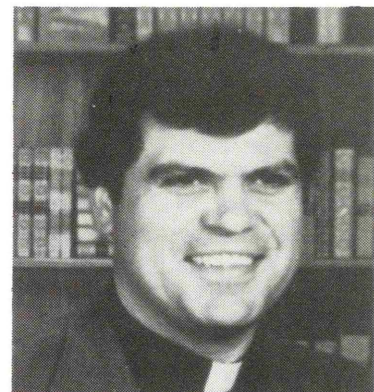
The Rev. Wilbern Michalk
1963-1972



The Rev. W. Niederbrach
1969-1971



The Rev. Luther Russert
1972-1976



The Rev. Ronald C. Moritz
1978-Present

he died in 1934 at the age of 83—the last of the 22 founders.

Pastor Wunderlich continued to serve St. Paul's for three years in addition to his own parish church at Tolleston and the preaching station in Hessville. He died in Tolleston at the age of forth-eight on December 28, 1886. This dedicated missionary of frail health defied all the vagaries of weather to come nine miles to Hammond to preach. He followed the railroad tracks from Tolleston—resorting to handcar and even, foot, if his horse failed. He came in a raging snowstorm to deliver his last sermon. Pastor Wunderlich's perseverance, his encouragement and guidance to this small struggling group of Lutherans in Hammond deserves commendation. We may say that his dedication set the tradition for St. Paul's continued efforts in the field of missions.

Early church records show the church collector as an important officer of the congregation. As the congregation grew, collecting districts were formed. Usually, a Sunday afternoon was the time to collect the weekly contributions which by today's standards were a mere pittance. But these early years in the prairie were very poor. Land at \$5 to \$11 an acre took all the immigrants' savings, and there was little left for food and clothing. A cow sold for \$15. The land was sandy; potatoes were the best crop. The early settlers sold cordwood or picked blueberries to be shipped to Chicago at 15¢ per quart. Some walked to Chicago, others went by wagon, and still others sent their produce by rail from Gibson (reached by handcar). Jacob Rimbach was postmaster and also used the handcar to transport the mail to and from the Gibson station.

Our faithful forefathers were frugal, hard-working and enterprising as well as willing to sacrifice. The packing houses prospered, creating a labor market for more German butchers. The congregation also grew and flourished.

Rev. G. F. Luebker of Inka, Illinois, became the first resident pastor of St. Paul's on December 13, 1885. He soon founded a day school (23 children), teaching the children himself, and then was joined by Miss Dunsing (later Mrs. Peter Meyn). The first school was built (20 x 30 feet) at a cost of \$380 in 1886. Mr. H. Mashoff was the first regular teacher, arriving in 1889.

Besides his interest in the school, Pastor Luebker was interested in the development of the cultural life of the congregation. To this end he organized a choir (a "singing society") and a young men's society. Rev. Luebker's plan was to increase the fellowship opportunities in the congregation, offsetting the lure of the many lodges in the community which he vehemently opposed.

During the next decade Hammond experi-

enced a boom. New industries came and 800 dwellings were erected in one year. In 1889, St. Paul's released eight families to start St. John's congregation north of the grand Calumet River. St. Paul's continued to grow and a larger building (44 x 60) with two classrooms for the school on the lower level was built at a cost of \$4,500, including furniture and fixtures, and dedicated on February 2, 1890. Mr. Gustav Muenich was the builder. The original church was moved to the adjacent lot and became the parsonage until 1955; thereafter, it was the caretaker's home until its demolition in 1978.

Rev. Luebker accepted a call to Milford, Nebraska, on July 1, 1889, and was replaced by Rev. T. W. Herzberger, who had been the pastor in neighboring Hegewisch. Pastor Herzberger, during his Hegewisch and early St. Paul's ministry, assisted in the organization of the St. John's congregation over the state line now Calumet City. In 1891 members of St. Paul's, who lived in this Illinois area, were released to join St. John's. In ten short years three Lutheran churches, each with a pastor, church building, and a school, were organized in close proximity. On October 2, 1892, St. Paul's celebrated its tenth anniversary with a voters' assembly of 110 members. On that special day, A. F. W. Fedder was installed as a teacher, replacing H. Mashoff.

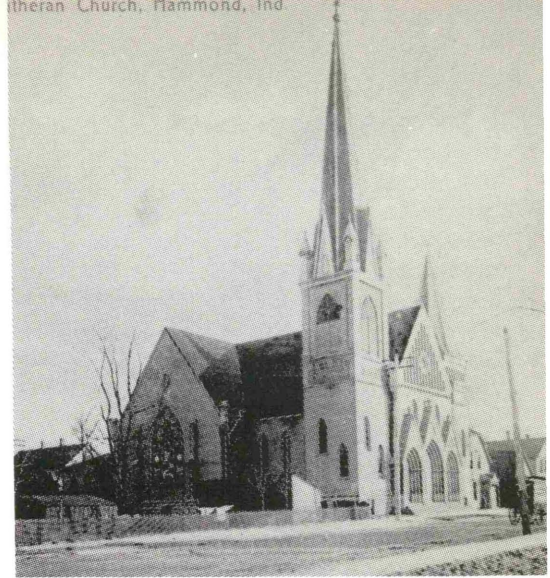
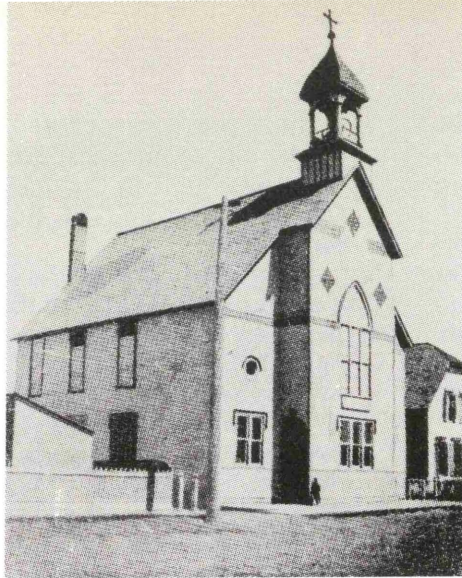
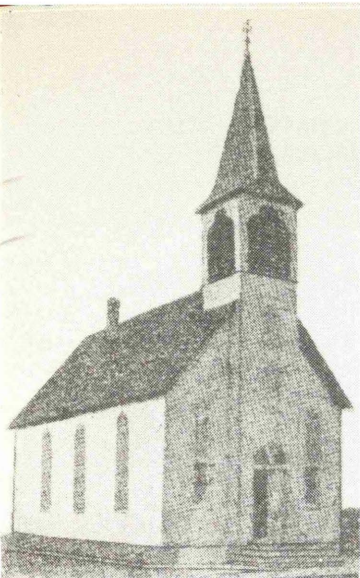
The Ladies' Aid Society—a continuous arm of the church—was organized in 1893. In 1894, St. Paul's joined what today is known as the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. From this time forth "Synod" has played an important role in the life of St. Paul's.

In 1895, our earliest effort in written communication was the publishing of the "Kirchen Bote." Its purpose was stated to be a "family mirror," stressing favorable activity in the parish and admonishing weaknesses.

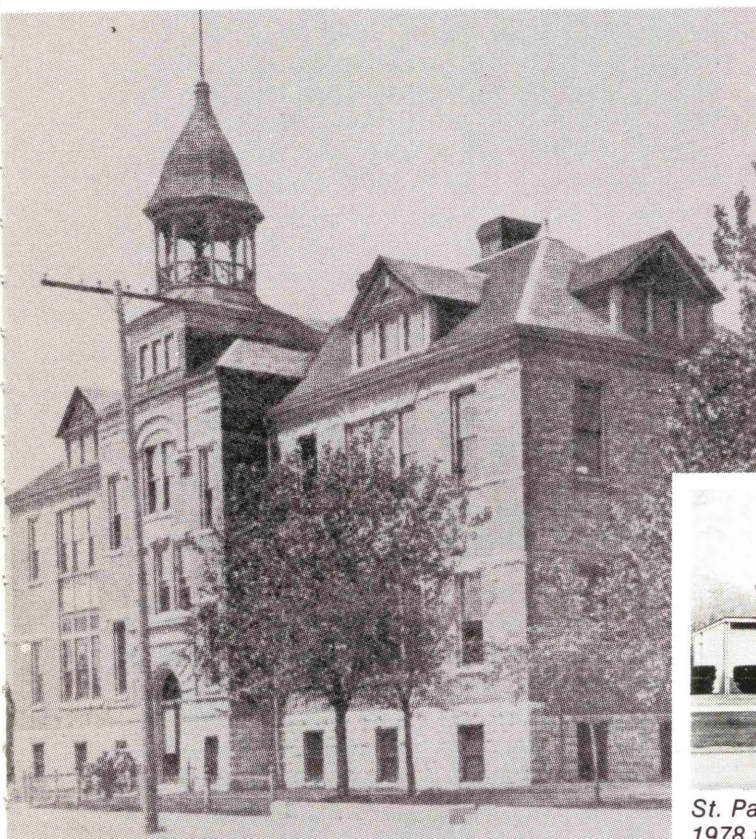
More growth! A new school needed! The first thought was to locate in "East Hammond" at State and Charlotte Streets, but upon further consideration a lot was purchased from Thomas Hammond at the corner of Sibley and Oakley to be closer to the population center.

A very substantial building of four classrooms and a basement, at a cost of \$14,000, was dedicated August 3, 1896. This location also has an interesting history. In the 1920's the school building was sold to the Labor Unions to become "The Labor Temple." In turn it was purchased by the First Baptist Church and torn down, and the site has become a part of the enlarged Baptist complex.

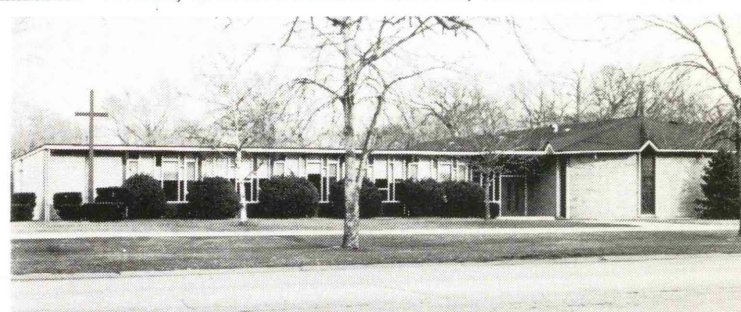
As an example of "Christian love," St. Paul's School Board permitted children of non-members to enter the day school. Tuition was based upon the number of children in the family. Twenty-seven children responded to this missionary effort.



The church underwent many changes over the years. Above left as it appeared in 1883; center, 1890; and right, 1903

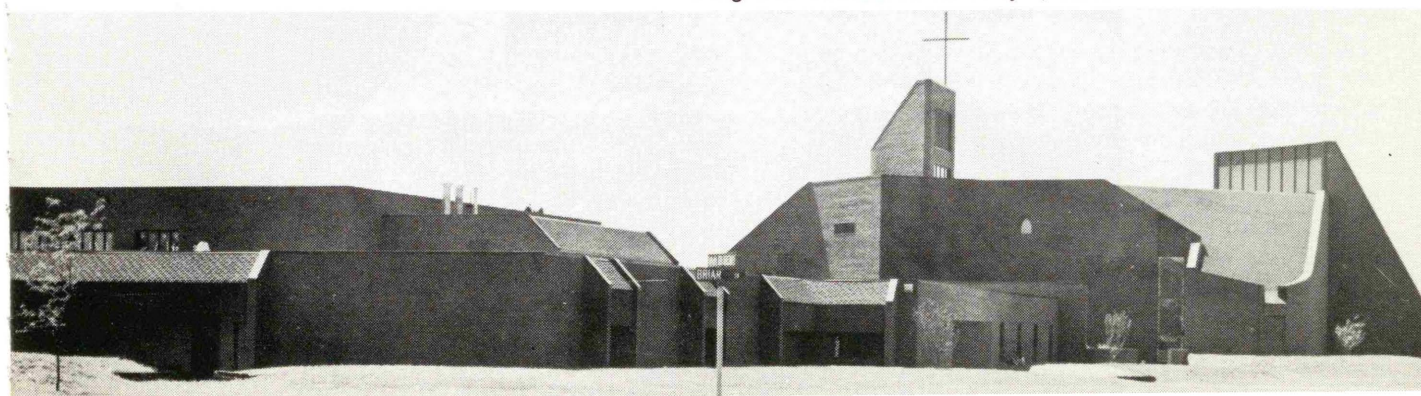


St. Paul's Lutheran School and Parish House, Erie and Easton Streets, Hammond — 1920



St. Paul's Lutheran School, Oakley and Sibley Street, Hammond — Dedicated August 3, 1896

St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel, Munster, 1959. In 1978 the building became St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Munster until it was sold on June 1, 1980 (above). The new church-school complex was dedicated November 23, 1980; the school wing was dedicated January 3, 1982



Coming forth to help with the school debt was the Ladies' Aid—setting its precedent through the years of being truly an “aid” to the congregation.

Hammond from its founding had been a German-speaking community with its own mother language newspapers. Second generation Germans learned to speak and read English. So it was only natural that St. Paul's, during Rev. Herzberger's pastorate, would begin bilingual services.

After serving almost ten years at St. Paul's, Pastor Herzberger accepted a call in June, 1899, to become Synod's first Lutheran City missionary, working in St. Louis. He had always wanted to be a missionary. He was also instrumental in founding Synod's Deaconess program.

Rev. W. H. T. Dau of Conover, North Carolina, was called to the pastorate of St. Paul's and was installed on June 18, 1899. The congregation continued to increase its membership. There was not enough seating capacity in the church. Although still heavily in debt from building the school, the congregation, nevertheless, with great courage and faith, undertook the building of a new church. The old church (the second edifice) was moved east on Clinton Street toward the Monon railroad tracks, where services were held while the new church was being built on the old site. After this use and with the opening of the new church, the old building was sold to a garment factory for \$6,000. The building burned down in January of 1905.

A Stately Church A Magnificent Dream Come True

On August 24, 1902, the cornerstone of St. Paul's third edifice was laid. This stately Gothic church, the first Protestant church of its size in the Calumet area, was dedicated on the second Sunday after Easter, April 26, 1903. The architect was J. M. C. Riedel of Ft. Wayne, and its total cost was \$30,000. All groups contributed to the new church: the school children, giving the baptismal font; the young people, the chancel and the altar; the women's group, the organ which cost \$2,500. Neighbors gave the bell. The community was invited to share St. Paul's joy in this beautiful church. The steepled towers of the third church were to dominate the Hammond skyline for more than 75 years!

While St. Paul's was considered in 1903 to be the most affluent church in the area and the congregation had pledged generously, the civic tragedy of the packinghouse fire brought about a great reversal. The fire and the consequent closing of the packinghouse led to unemployment of 1,500 persons, many belonging to St. Paul's.

While dealing with the problems of building

and opening a new church, Pastor Dau found the time to assume the presidency of Synod's Northwest Indiana District. Also during Pastor Dau's leadership, the Sunday School was organized.

At the same time, St. Paul's joined other area Lutheran churches in organizing the Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery Association in April 1903. The cemetery is located on Calumet Avenue near 165th Street in Hammond.

After six years of service, Pastor Dau, whose heartfelt interest was always academic, was reluctantly released in May 1905, to become Professor of Dogmatics at Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis. In 1926 he became the first president of Valparaiso University. He died on April 21, 1944, and is buried in Concordia Cemetery, Hammond.

Rev. Theodore Claus of Elkhart, Indiana, succeeded Pastor Dau in June 1905. He inherited a debt-ridden congregation which also faced a troublesome language problem. (World War I generated an anti-German sentiment. A number of parishioners, believing that the congregation was not making sufficient progress in making English the chief church language, asked to be released. In 1918 this group formed Trinity Lutheran Church, an English-speaking congregation.)

In 1906, *Der Bote*, the church Sunday bulletin, began publication.

During Pastor Claus's pastorate the 25th anniversary of St. Paul's congregation was observed on October 27, 1917. At this time the membership totaled 1,650. Three former pastors, Rev. Luebker, Rev. Herzberger, and Rev. Dau, returned to preach at the anniversary service. St. Paul's is indebted to Pastor Claus for a well-organized history of the first 25 years.

Back at the school scene we find Teacher Fedder with a classroom overflowing with 100 pupils! A great father-son day at St. Paul's was held in August 1903 when Mr. A. F. W. Fedder celebrated his silver anniversary of teaching. At the same service his son, Oscar, was ordained as a pastor.

St. Paul's Young People's Society was received into the Walther League in 1914 and joined the Synodical effort to care for the spiritual needs of the men in service in World War I.

In 1916 members of St. Paul's living in Hessville were released to affiliate with the newly organized Concordia Church. Our early history stated that from 1871 to 1881 Lutherans, unable to organize in Hammond, attended the Hessville preaching station serviced by Pastor Wunderlich of Tolleston (in what is now called the Little Red School House on Kennedy Avenue). Following the death of Pastor Wunderlich, Pastor Rump, also of Tolleston, took over the

Hessville mission until early in 1891. Services in this mission were then discontinued until 1916. At this time Pastor Claus, at the request of Ernest Guenther and others, reinstated the services and also helped to organize the new church. So the histories of St. Paul's and Concordia are intertwined.

The Quadricentennial of the Reformation was observed in the fall of 1917 with special services at St. Paul's and area churches at the Fairgrounds in Crown Point.

After 13 years of service Pastor Claus resigned and was followed by Rev. Walter F. Lichtsinn, a native of Indiana, who had been serving in Toronto, Canada. Pastor Lichtsinn was installed on June 16, 1918, thereby beginning a long and illustrious pastorate at St. Paul's.

These were the troubled World War I years. As mentioned previously, the language of the services had become a problem. Now the English services (hitherto held Sunday evenings) were transferred to late afternoon; in 1922 double morning services were introduced. In 1918 instruction in the school was entirely in English and, since 1921, all catechism instruction and confirmation have been in English.

As the terrible war ended, the congregation prayed: "Let us all be better Christians, better church workers, better citizens, better neighbors."

Both church and school were closed for the month of October, 1918, due to the nationwide flu epidemic. Prayers were offered to spare our land.

In April 1919 the congregation supported the Lutheran Layman's Endowment Fund campaign.

Changing Times Realignment Within St. Paul's

Changing times forced the relocation of the school from the now noisy downtown Hammond area. The building was sold to the Labor Unions, and a new school plant on Erie and Eaton Streets (adjacent to Hammond High School) was dedicated on September 18, 1920. Because labor difficulties prevented the scheduled use of the building, classes were held for six months in the church downtown. The structure also served as a parish house.

Reorganization of church activities as well as new emphases took place during this period of the early 1920's. The Junior Society joined the Walther League; a men's club was organized; the Ladies' Aid numbered 181 active members; the Senior Walther League took time out from their thespian efforts for seven members to attend the convention in San Francisco, and the young people responded well to the Confirmation Reunion Services held on the first Sun-



*Pastor Emeritus Walter F. Lichtsinn
at age ninety-three — 1982*

day after Easter. The youth groups promoted the sale of Wheatridge Christmas Seals. The parish newspaper, *The Lutheran Messenger*, (formerly *Der Bote*) now bilingual, reported communion attendance at a record high, stating: "Attendance at the Lord's Supper is the barometer of Spiritual Life in a community." St. Olaf's Choir honored St. Paul's with a performance. Annual Memorial Day services at Concordia Cemetery were inaugurated. The annual church picnic on the 4th of July at Douglas Park was the highlight of the summer. On July 4, 1926, special services were held for the 150th anniversary of our country.

Special collections were taken in 1925-26 for the recently acquired Valparaiso University by a group of Lutheran Laymen (including members of St. Paul's). St. Paul's has enjoyed a special relationship with this educational institution. Dr. Dau, its first president, was a former pastor at St. Paul's. The women of St. Paul's have supported the Valpo Guild, which in turn is supportive financially to the university. The proximity of the university has made it possible for many young people to enjoy a college education under Lutheran influence.

In preparation for the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the Gothic church edifice, April 26, 1928, a renovation program took place. The cost was defrayed by individual families of St. Paul's. Dr. W. H. T. Dau of Valparaiso University, Rev. Rump of Tolleston, and Rev. Oscar Fedder of Chicago were the guest speakers at the anniversary services.

To reach the developing southside of Hammond, a branch Sunday School was opened on November 21, 1926, in a store front building on Calumet Avenue at 165th Street. Forty children attended. With an increase in enrollment, the branch was transferred to the Edison School on Mulberry Street.

In 1927 a constitution written in English was adopted by the Ladies' Aid. The congregation also rewrote its constitution in English in that year.

Pastor Lichtsinn was elected president of the Central District in June 1927, thereby starting a long association in administration within the Missouri Synod. Since Rev. Lichtsinn had assumed increased duties, Synod helped to defray the salary of Rev. E. W. Sonstrom as assistant pastor.

In 1930 Pastor Lichtsinn, as President of the Central District, helped to organize "The Lutheran Women's Missionary Endeavor," a forerunner of the present Lutheran Women's Missionary League (organized July 8, 1942). The enthusiastic beginnings of the Endeavor among the women of St. Paul's soon spread throughout the District with Pastor Lichtsinn's support.

St. Paul's joined Lutherans throughout the world in 1930 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession.

The first series of special noon services held during Holy Week in a downtown theater was inaugurated in 1930 as a joint effort of the Lutheran congregations of Hammond and Calumet City. This effort is still in effect, but with fewer churches participating, and with the services now being held at the churches.

The congregation rejoiced at the announcement during the annual meeting in January 1929, that the deficit of the current fund was eliminated. That year also closed without a deficit.

But the joy was short-lived as the Great Depression crippled the finances of the congregation. A relief committee was created in November 1931, to give assistance to the needy. Door collections were held to secure funds. A church savings fund was set up for the membership during the bankless days of Hammond. The branch Sunday School and mission were discontinued. Assistant Pastor Sonstrom was released in May 1932, due to shortage of Synodical funds. The pastor and teachers volunteered a reduction in their salaries. A self-denial collection by Synod had the sum of \$900 as its contribution from St. Paul's. No "Every Member Visitation" was conducted in 1932; members were urged to give in proportion as God had blessed them. The current fund deficit mounted in 1933; salaries were paid only to the middle of June.

Despite the problems created by the Depression, the work of the church went on. The 450th Anniversary of Luther's birth was observed with a joint service at Hammond High School on November 19, 1933. Dr. Ed. Friedrich, Professor at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, was the speaker.

A St. Paul historian records:

On January 17, 1937, services of praise were held to celebrate the completion of extensive repairs and the dedication of the new organ. — In the evening Mr. W. Sass-

manshausen of Chicago gave an organ recital and the Lake County Lutheran Chorus sang under the direction of Mr. Richard Schoenbohm of Valparaiso University. The attendance was 1,000.

In March of that year chimes were installed in the organ—used for the first time in the Easter Sun Rise Service. On April 21 Mr. Edward Rechlin of New York, America's foremost Bach interpreter, gave an organ recital. Another organ recital was given on June 3 by Professor Walter Buzzin (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis). The guest organist also gave an informative address on 'church music'.

The Senior Walther League, a very active young people's group, had its 15th anniversary in 1939, while in December of 1940 the Valpo Guild, a woman's auxiliary group, held their first Silver Tea and Musical, which became an annual event.

The 1940's saw better economic conditions, resulting in a drastic reduction in the church debt. World War II dominated the decade. The church identified itself with the war effort: two flags, one Church and one U.S., were prominent in the church; an honor roll, listing members who gave service as well as their lives, was mounted in the church narthex; a wartime service committee coordinated efforts to help the 160 members in the service; a grateful D-day observance was held on June 6, 1944, followed by a Thanksgiving service on August 14, 1945, for the conclusion of the war. St. Paul's participated in the Synodical Peace Offering and a European Relief Program became an ongoing project sponsored by the Ladies' Aid.

Also in the 1940's mission efforts were intensified locally. A mission was established at the Columbia Housing Center in southeast Hammond. The area churches of the Missouri Synod, under Rev. Lichtsinn's leadership, developed the Lutheran Mission Association of the Calumet Region, Inc. This fine organization continues its missionary efforts in varied aspects, such as providing institutional ministry to many area nursing and convalescent homes and to the Lake County Jail; also conducting surveys and giving financial support to the development of new parishes in the Calumet Region.

Nine hundred consecrated copies of the newly published Lutheran Hymnals were in use for celebrations during this period. On October 18, 1942, the congregation marked its 60th milestone; the following year highlighted the 40th anniversary of the Gothic Church dedication, followed by the 25th year of Rev. Walter F. Lichtsinn's pastorate. That year concluded with the Lichtsinn family moving to the new parsonage at 8 Highland Street. The pastor's office was moved to the school, which was now in its

25th year at Erie and Eaton Streets.

The later 1940's were eventful years. New groups were formed: an ushers' staff relieving the deacons of one duty, a "Cradle Roll" department in the Sunday School, and a married couples club. Outstanding was the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Missouri Synod with a festival service at St. Paul's and also a regional service in Gary; the election of Pastor Lichtsinn as a vice-president of Synod; and the ordination and installation of Walter E. Ruehrdanz as assistant pastor.

Rev. Armin Oldsen, Valparaiso, Indiana, the new Lutheran Hour Speaker, delivered the sermon at a Lutheran Hour Rally held at the Hammond Civic Center on April 17, 1951. On June 8th of that year Pastor Lichtsinn was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois. Later in the fall the congregation sponsored a testimonial dinner for him; Dr. J. W. Behnken, president of Synod, was the main speaker.

Fiftieth Year Milestone

The decade of the 1950's saw the final phase of an extensive renovation program both in the school and church, completed in time for the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Gothic Church edifice, April 26, 1953. A homecoming and reunion were held, headed by two sons of the congregation, Pastors John Bauermeister and Walter E. Lichtsinn. The Ladies' Aid celebrated 60 years of dedicated "aid" to St. Paul's, and to further membership, an Evening Circle was formed. The Walther League passed a half century of service to youth; St. Paul's Boy Scout Troop was reorganized. In Synodical affairs St. Paul's congregation participated in the church expansion program, entitled "Conquest for Christ."

Congregational expansion and many changes are noted in St. Paul's records during the 1950's. Assistant Pastor Walter E. Ruehrdanz left July 1953 to accept a call in San Antonio, Texas. On May 9, 1954, Rev. Earl E. Weis of Sikeston, Missouri, became associate pastor. A new parsonage on 172nd Street was built for Dr. Lichtsinn and his family; the Weis family occupied the Highland Street parsonage.

Recognizing congregational growth southward, the Board of Missions in 1955 sanctioned the purchase of property on Columbia Avenue near Ridge Road in Munster. The Ladies' Aid underwrote the entire cost of the property. Also, the Branch Sunday School which had been meeting in the Norman Florian home on 175th Street, Hammond, was now transferred to the Munster Public Library on Ridge Road. The following year a mission canvass was conducted in the Munster area. The results of

the canvass determined the creation in 1957 of the "Munster Mission Planning Committee."

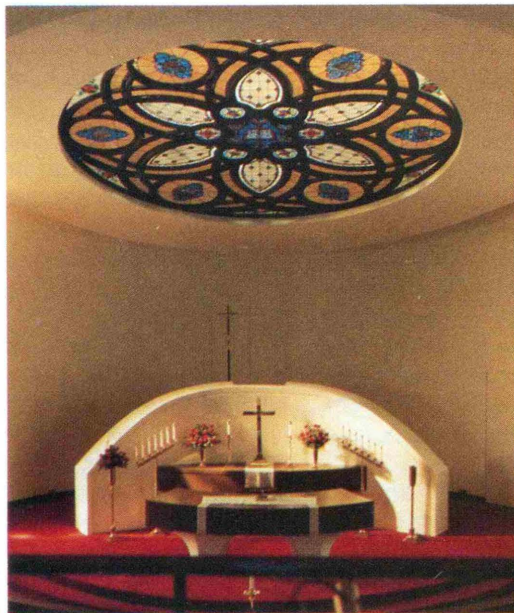
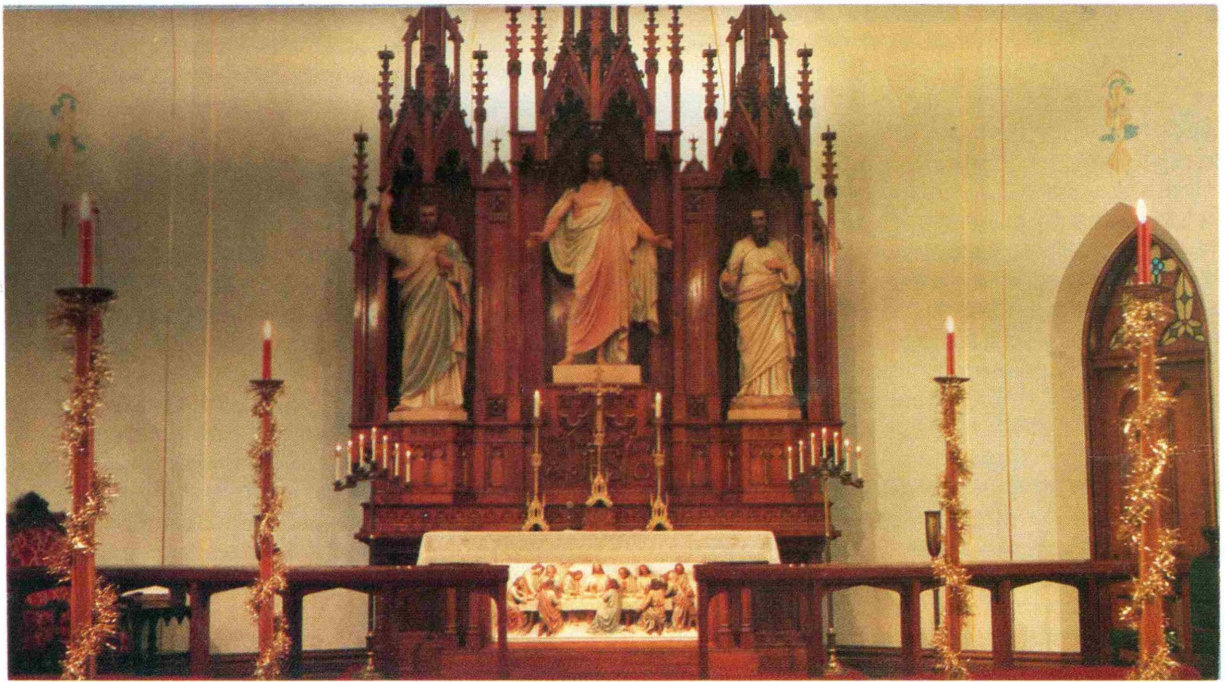
The 75th commemoration of St. Paul's congregation began on May 5 and ended November 24, 1957. The Diamond Anniversary Festival was held on October 6th, with congregational son, Rev. Oscar Fedder of Chicago, the speaker. The six-month celebration included a vesper service of music and emphasized the topics: Youth, Women and Men, each in relation to the Church. An historical booklet was published. The cover design portrayed the upper part of the west window in the church, displaying the symbol of the Apostle St. Paul: "Spiritus Gladius" (the Sword of the Spirit).

Expansion and Changes

The next 25 years of St. Paul's history reflect to a degree the social and economic changes of the area and the growth southward away from Central Hammond. Congregational efforts centered on achieving the Munster Mission to be known as St. Paul's Chapel. In 1958 construction began and despite the destruction of the east wall in a wind storm, it was successfully completed and dedicated April 6, 1959, and services inaugurated on May 3rd. Immediately the Sunday School was transferred from the Munster Library to the Chapel (enrollment soon measured up to the Downtown Sunday School). This first unit of the Munster project was financed through debenture notes. A new parsonage at 1511 MacArthur Drive in Munster was purchased to replace that at 8 Highland Street in Hammond. Rev. Weis and his family moved to the new facility.

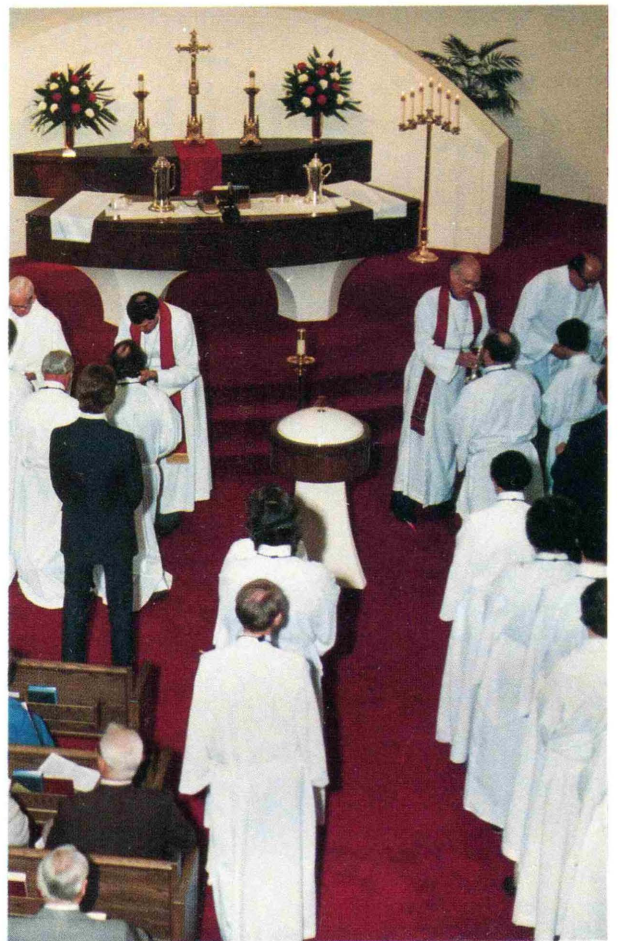
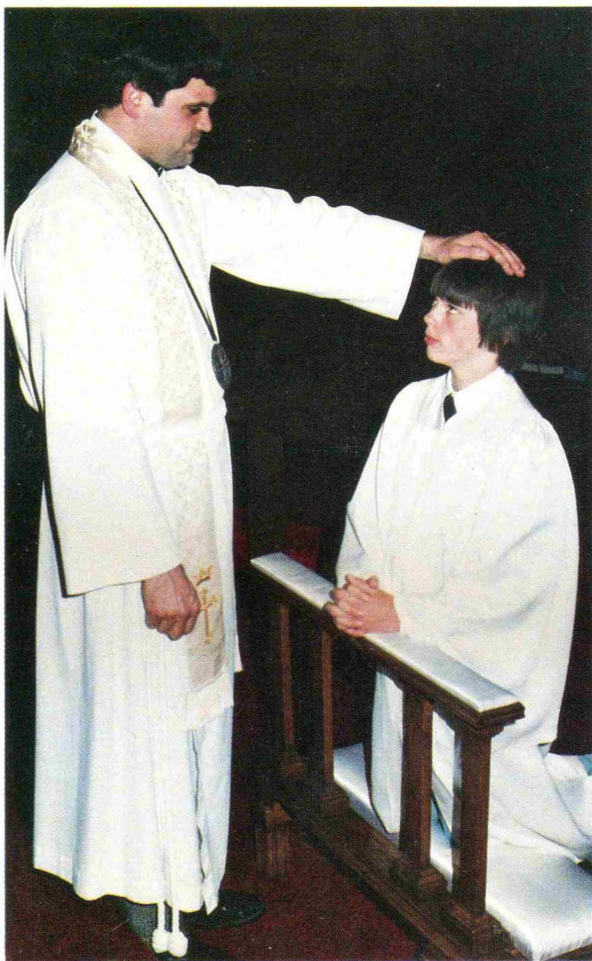
In 1958, Dr. Lichtsinn completed 40 years of service to St. Paul's on June 16th, and 45 years in the ministry on August 3rd. His request to be relieved of all administrative work and primary responsibilities was granted by the Church Council. The congregation honored him at a testimonial dinner on August 26th. Dr. John W. Behnken, president of our Synod, was the principal speaker.

St. Paul's School observed its 75th anniversary in 1961. Waldemar Beckmann had served as principal for the previous 20 years. Renovations in the Erie Street School now provided room for each of the eight grade levels plus the kindergarten. A Children's Choir was organized in 1955 by Teacher David Brandt. In 1964 this choir made the first of two appearances at Orchestra Hall as guests of the Chicago Sunday Evening Club. Beginning in 1965 and through 1982, the Children's Choir had received eighteen consecutive Superior ratings in the Northern Indiana School Band, Orchestra and Vocal Association contests. The day school now included pupils from St. John's in Calumet City; St. John's, Hammond; and Trinity, Hammond.





***"But you are a chosen race,
a royal priesthood,
a holy nation,
God's own people"
I Peter 2:9***





Waldemar Beckmann, teacher-principal of St. Paul's School — 1938-1980

On October 3, 1962, St. Paul's congregation advanced to its 80th year. A commemoration offering defrayed the costs of repairs to the church and school buildings. That year the incorporation of the church was recorded in the Council Minutes: the official name to be designated as "St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hammond." The Concordia Retirement Plan was adopted in April 1965. The by-laws were updated in 1966, then revised in 1969.

Changes in pastoral leadership now took place. Pastor Earl Weis had accepted the responsibilities relinquished by Dr. Lichtsinn. Dr. Lichtsinn chose to retire on July 31, 1963, and this event was observed with a special service and dinner. Candidate Wilbern Michalk, a graduate of Concordia Seminary in Springfield, was assigned to St. Paul's and was installed as assistant pastor on June 30, 1963.

An expanding membership whose activities were spread over three facilities located several miles apart presented challenges in the 1960's. Attempts to create closer relationships were: receptions for new members; Bible classes, including the Bethel Bible Series; Cottage Meetings giving members an opportunity to "speak out"; organization of a married couples' club; junior members added to the ushering staff; a pictorial directory published, and recreational groups formed.

Other innovations included: a Sunday afternoon Special Communion Service four times a year for the elderly and shut-ins, followed by a light supper and fellowship hour (sponsored by the Evening Circle of the Ladies Aid); new candelabra and vases on the altar of the Munster Chapel; an eternal light added to the chancel of the downtown church and the chapel; communion cards to encourage attendance; and a change in pastoral robes. Pastors

were now given the choice of wearing the Geneva robes (as hitherto had been customary) or to wear the more liturgical cassocks, surplices and stoles.

The kick-off for mission work in the decade was a Mission Fair and Rally held at the Hammond Civic Center in autumn 1962, with Dr. Oswald Hoffman as speaker. Attendance was 2,000. The Area Evangelism Mission program preceded the rally. Other area cooperation with fellow Lutherans included the Calumet Lutheran Bible Institute (1964); Hammond Circuit, N.W. Indiana (the latter program set up by Synod to review concerns within the circuit area presided over by a counselor).

The Walther Leaguers engaged in a "Hike for the Hungry," raising funds for the World Hunger Program. They decorated the church and chapel for Christmas and planted trees on church properties, and canvassed the downtown area as a mission project for the Sunday School.

For a number of years St. Paul's Planning Board had been studying the growth and development of the congregation to determine what steps had to be taken to meet the needs of future years. In February 1966, the Voters' Assembly approved the St. Paul's Property Improvement and Expansion Program (P.I.E.). Immediately, an intensive campaign to educate the membership to the needs and finances of the program took place, with implementation on May 1, 1966. The estimated cost of St. Paul's P.I.E. was \$480,000 with a need of \$225,000 in three and one-half years.

When the first venture of P.I.E. was successful, the Munster Chapel addition became a reality. The Ladies' Aid supplied the stained-glass windows. St. Paul's Munster Chapel now became the parish center with offices, meeting rooms, recreational activities, a well-equipped kitchen, a kindergarten and Summer Vacation Bible School—this, in addition to its use as a Sanctuary and Sunday School.

January 29, 1967, marked the second time in St. Paul's history when there were no church services—this time due to a record snowfall.

Dr. Walter F. Lichtsinn acquired the status of Emeritus on August 1, 1963, and also that year celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination. The golden anniversary of the venerable Dr. Lichtsinn as pastor at St. Paul's was joyously observed on June 16, 1968.

Having experienced pastoral leadership of such length, the congregation was ill-prepared for the many changes in the next five years. As was noted in a Sunday Bulletin of this period: "We live in a new time . . . Never before in the long history of human affairs has mankind had to make profound decisions in so short a period of time."

On September 29, 1968, Pastor Earl Weis preached his farewell sermon, having accepted a call to Jackson, Missouri, after 14 years of faithful service to St. Paul's. Rev. Michalk became associate pastor at this time. In 1969 he assumed the duties of Senior Pastor. That year, Rev. Willard Niederbrach of Laguna Beach, California, was called to be associate pastor. He began his ministry at St. Paul's on December 7th and served two years. On August 26, 1972, Rev. Michalk gave his closing sermon prior to his departure to accept a call to Lakeland, Florida. On November 26th of that year, Rev. Luther Russert of Lowell assumed the pastoral duties, serving until 1975. During this period a number of vicars served St. Paul's.

A Decade of Indecision

The end of the decade saw the function of the *Quarterly Bulletin* which served the congregation for 32 years, taken over by the monthly *Newsletter*. That year, 1968, a pictorial directory was distributed to the membership. The Planning Board ended the P.I.E. program. New trends fast developing both in the area and in the congregation called for a reevaluation of growth plans. In 1969, a 14.5 acre site on Harrison Avenue and Briar Lane in Munster was purchased. A current thought was a Christian Life Center, centralizing parish activities for functional and economic purposes. By 1970 plans were submitted for such a structure and a "Building for Christian Growth" campaign launched.

Rather than uniting the congregation, the proposition divided it into factions. Two hundred twenty communicants were released to form Timothy Lutheran Church of Munster. The 1970's were to go down in St. Paul's history as the years of indecision.

Finally, at the Church Council meeting held on July 18, 1977, the Board of Deacons presented a resolution to unite St. Paul's congregation. The salient points covered were: (1) the existence of two places of worship had not fostered a unified body; (2) since St. Paul's congregation had approved the relocation to Harrison Avenue, action should now be taken to do so; (3) the Downtown Church to be closed on December 31, 1977; (4) services to be held at the Munster Chapel until the completion of the new Life Center; and (5) St. Paul's to reaffirm its goal of spiritual growth—through prayer, fellowship, Bible study, evangelism, stewardship and Christian education.

Problems during the 1970's existed not only at St. Paul's, but also in Synod over doctrinal issues. However, along with the shadows there was also sunshine in the life of St. Paul's during these trying times. The congregation rejoiced in October 1972 in the 90th year of its

founding. At the anniversary services senior members were especially recognized.

In area relationships St. Paul's became a member of the Lutheran Family Services of Northwest Indiana, and also became a member of The Association of the Lutheran Home of Northwest Indiana, Inc., Crown Point. Deaconess Betty Mulholland, whose role since 1968 at St. Paul's has been mainly with the elderly and shut-ins, became secretary of the board of the latter organization.

In June 1973, women became voting members of the Voters' Assembly, and in May of 1974, a women's group named C.A.R.E. (Christian Achievement Requires Effort) was organized to assist in the promotion of the new church-school complex and to promote spiritual growth and Christian fellowship among its members. This group afforded evening fellowship for women, the Evening Circle of the Ladies' Aid having been previously discontinued.

On October 9, 1976, St. Paul's Christian Day School celebrated its 90th anniversary. The theme, "Let the Children Come to Me," was dominant in the services, both at the Downtown Church and the Chapel. Rev. Walter E. Lichtsinn was the officiate. Dr. Samuel Golterman was the speaker at the anniversary banquet which followed an Open House at the school.

On December 31, 1977, a service of "Thanksgiving and Praise" was held at old St. Paul's to mark the end of the church on Clinton Street—95 years of grace in Hammond. Children from afar came home to be with their families and share memories of worship in the venerable building for four generations. Nostalgia tightened the heartstrings as the recessional hymn, "O Lord, Our Father, Thanks to Thee", was sung. A great era of St. Paul's had come to a close.

"Sing Unto the Lord A New Song" A New Beginning

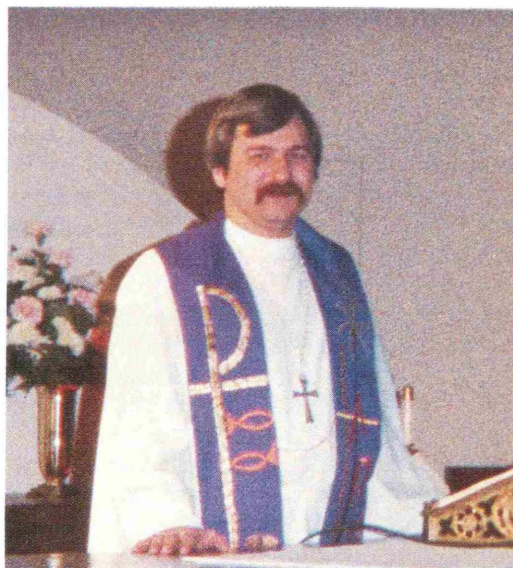
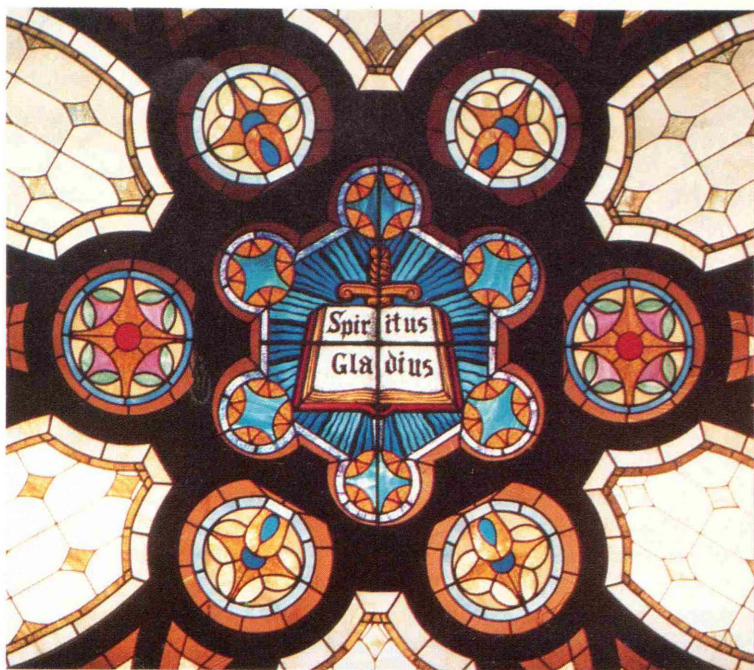
January 1, 1978, ushered in not only a new year but a new beginning for St. Paul's. Rev. Ronald Moritz was installed on January 15th. His task was to guide the congregation in renewed spiritual strength, greater determination, courage and insight for our future building. Nostalgia was tucked into the book of memories; sleeves were rolled up to tackle the gigantic task ahead.

During these busy times the congregation also honored Mr. Waldemar Beckmann, who had spent 40 years in their midst as Christian Day School teacher and principal. Beloved by all, Mr. Beckmann had served worthily and with great efficiency in his many roles in the school, church and community. On September 24, 1978, a special anniversary service was held

100th Anniversary



*"Thankful for
your partnership
in the gospel"
Philippians 1:5*



for the honoree, followed by a testimonial dinner in the evening.

Committees to "unite St. Paul's Congregation" were hard at work. The first group, whose responsibility was to close the downtown church, did so with dignity. A second committee had the awesome task of deciding which artifacts were to be saved from the old church and used in the new church-school complex, and which should be sold. Since this area was already in the Hammond Redevelopment program, the old church, the adjoining former parsonage, and the land were sold to this organization for \$85,000. The buildings were razed in July 1979.

Meanwhile, the committee for the preservation of the artifacts was busy planning removal, restoration, and storage of such items as the stained-glass windows, valued at \$150,000; the bell, the organ, and other items.

Another most essential committee was that of fund raising; of like importance, the building committee to plan the new church-school complex. G. M. Fedorchak Associates of Merrillville, Indiana, were chosen to evaluate existing plans and to incorporate the historical artifacts into the design of the new building complex. The first phase of the building was to concern the sanctuary, administration facilities, parish activity areas, and the shell of the school and gymnasium. As monies became available, the building committee, in May 1979, recommended the addition of three finished classrooms, concrete slab for the gymnasium, ceilings, block partitions, plumbing and electricity, and plumbing in remaining rooms. Groundbreaking took place in August 1978, with the cornerstone laying in August 1979.

Other important decisions to be carried out were the disposal of the many "holdings" of St. Paul's. Some years previous, the apartment building on Calumet Avenue (serving as housing for teachers and assistant pastor) was sold. Now also sold were the parsonages—one on 172 Street, Hammond; the other, on MacArthur Drive, Munster. In March 1980, the Salvation Army purchased the chapel, and were to take possession in May 1980.

Following the closing of the downtown church, the Munster Chapel became St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Munster. The building developed into a beehive of activity in preparation for relocation to the new church-school complex. Of cardinal importance was the spiritual renewal of the entire congregation: "the ministry of the church should be the concern of each member." A program of parish leadership, parish renewal and parish reorganization was instituted. The two steps of the program were: 1) key lay people would study the New Testament concept of "Church"; 2) a

16-week Bible course on the "Basics of Christian Faith" to be studied by each member of the congregation during our renewal years. Congregational fellowship was strengthened in many areas. "Koinonia," a fellowship hour between services afforded an opportunity to meet new members as well as to strengthen existing friendships. Renewed emphasis was placed on evangelism; the personal witnessing program became known as SHARE; also, annual Mission Fairs were continued. Canvassing within areas of Munster was updated. New stewardship approaches through personal conferences took place with emphasis on time and talents of members. Reactivation of the youth group was highlighted by the attendance of fourteen members at a national synodical gathering of youth in Ft. Collins, Colorado. More fellowship was to be found in the Couples' Group, Card-o-Rama, Marriage Renewal Retreats (marriage encounter programs), a Singles' group involving area churches, breakfasts for men sponsored by the Men's Club, luncheons by the Ladies' Aid, and dinners by C.A.R.E. A special Lenten observance, a "Seder Dinner," was introduced by and for women's groups in 1978.

In social concerns the great effort in 1979 was the sponsorship of the Duong Vo family, refugees from Viet Nam. A great deal of time, Christian love and compassion came forth from the congregation, particularly during the illness and death of Mrs. Vo. St. Paul's rejoiced at the decision of the Vo family to become baptized members. Other projects of concern were the continuance of Thanksgiving baskets for the needy in our own area and for students at Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne. Re-emphasis was placed on scholarships for the young adults preparing for a Christian vocation. The work of deaconess with the shut-ins and elderly in their respective homes or at the Lutheran Home in Crown Point became a large function of the church. The Lutheran Home Auxiliary's membership included women from St. Paul's.

Further spiritual renewal came through increased Bible classes. Cottage Bible classes led by members of the laity became a popular Sunday evening activity among couples. The quarterly Sunday afternoon Special Communion Services for the elderly and shut-ins were now held under the direction of the Board of Deacons. Heart-warming was the youth taking their turn to provide refreshments following these services.

Heart-warming, too, was the return to St. Paul's fold of many who had chosen, during the 1970's crisis, to disassociate. Now all hands joined in the great effort of readying the new church-school complex, giving of many talents as well as monies.

As seemed traditional at St. Paul's, all build-

ing ventures had their problems. Again, winter construction delays denied the congregation its hopes of opening the new church in May 1980. The closing service at the Munster Chapel was held on June 1st, after which the congregation moved its effects to the unfinished Resource Center of its partially constructed new home. Staff members accommodated themselves in various areas of the building as completed. Strangely enough, all these inconveniences and hardships only served to strengthen the congregation. Increasing numbers gave of their time and talents so that occupancy of the sanctuary and fellowship area might be accomplished before another winter set in.

God blessed the great effort and answered the congregation's prayers. On November 23, 1980, the glorious day of dedication was celebrated. St. Paul's new sanctuary in a building of unusual modern design, at a cost of \$2,700,000, encompassed many mementos of its heritage. The familiar bell pealed out the call to worship; a cross on the bell tower, similar to the one which once dominated urban Hammond, now overlooked a panorama of new family homes on land that seemingly just yesterday had been fields of onions and tomatoes.

The beautiful figure of Christ that once enhanced the altar in the downtown church now greeted worshipers in the entranceway; and the old organ, its tones greatly enriched through restoration, accompanied the enlarged choir and the congregation in the singing of our beloved Lutheran hymns and chorales. Augmenting the Senior Choir was the Male Chorus and the award-winning Children's Choir. This tremendous music program was planned and directed by Mr. David Brandt. Through the glass doors could be seen the Meditation Garden containing the cornerstone of the old downtown church.

As the dedication service progressed, sunlight shone through the stained-glass windows depicting the Good Shepherd and Christ in Gethsemane, lovingly replaced in their new setting. A canopy window, designed from the remaining stained-glass of the old church, similarly lighted, shed a brilliance over the distinctive chancel area. Focal design of the unique window is the "Spiritus Gladius," symbol of the Apostle St. Paul.

The restored old altar appointments, candelabra and floral vessels gleamed brightly in their own setting as did the eternal light. New was the Baptismal Font, together with the Baptismal Candle.

Former Pastor Earl Weis and Rev. Walter E. Lichtsinn, son of Pastor Emeritus Walter F. Lichtsinn and also a son of the congregation,

were the preachers on this singular day in St. Paul's history.

September 1980 through June 1981 was set aside as the Year of the Dedication. Along with special worship emphases, a Community Open House was held on December 7th. In April 1981 the sanctuary was a part of an area church visitation tour. A five-year plan of ministry, encompassing many of the new programs inaugurated in 1978, heretofore mentioned, was initiated. A new constitution was drawn up, effective July 1980, with the laity reorganized to more effectively fulfill the Great Commission.

Under the new constitution, the Altar Circle, once a function of the Ladies' Aid, became an entity in itself. This group performs a valuable service in the care of altar vessels, flowers, vestments and the construction of banners. Acolytes, drawn from the confirmation classes, add to the worship service.

The great financial underwriting of St. Paul's new church-school complex was met by the sale of former properties, pledges of parishioners, loans and memorials (which were entered in a special Memorial Book), and other gifts. However, much remained to be done. Spring brought the "Green-Up" project to landscape the grounds, financed mainly by memorials but activated by the hard labor of many.

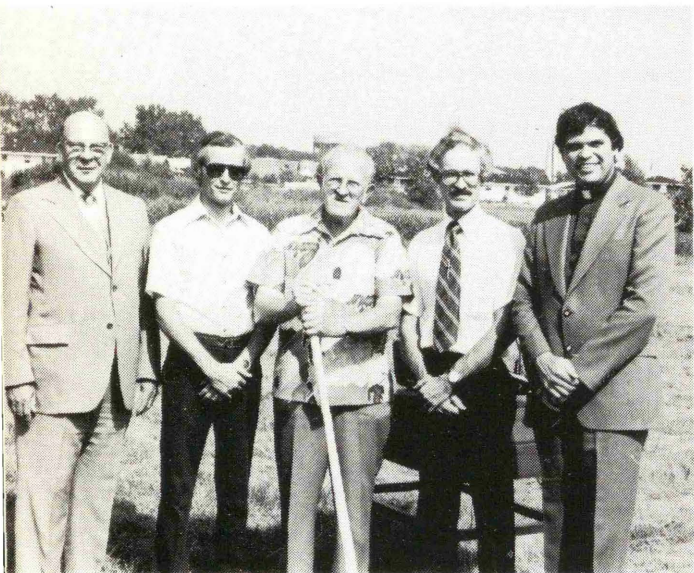
The completing of the school rooms as part of the complex now became the great challenge. Again, talents of the congregation, particularly those of the men, came to the fore to finish the educational wing. The growing Sunday School currently was using rooms that were finished. But talent could go just so far; additional monies were needed. A plan of mass cooperation of all groups under the sponsorship of the Aid Association for Lutherans devised a program of fund raising to provide items which would "enhance the learning experience" of the children.

Another project to augment the school funds was a pre-100th Anniversary Thank Offering by 100 members of the congregation. These efforts enabled the school to move its 179-pupil enrollment from the Erie Street, Hammond, location to the church-school complex during the Christmas holidays, 1981.

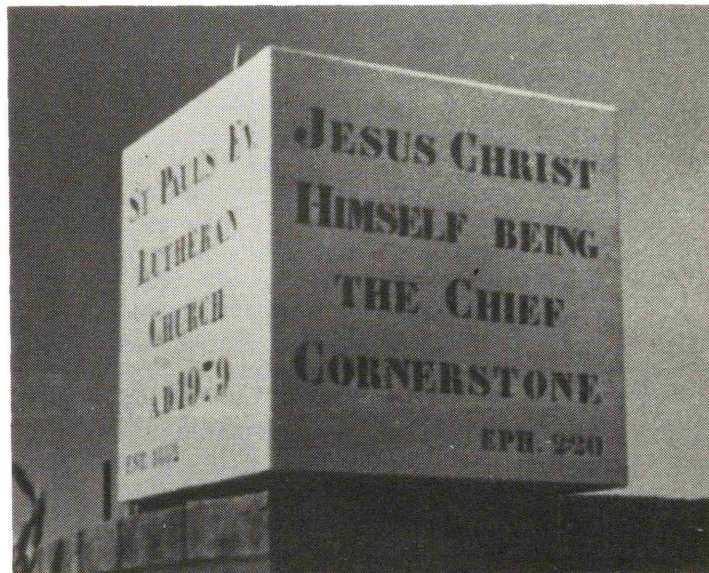
The moving of the school was under the direction of Principal Loren A. Rehmer. Mr. Rehmer had joined St. Paul's faculty in June 1981. He was called to replace Waldemar Beckmann, who had faithfully served St. Paul's in the capacity of teacher and principal for 43 years. Mr. Beckmann had requested retirement in November 1980, with plans to aid his successor in the school transition and also to serve as St. Paul's archivist. Ill health and his subsequent death ended the plans of a very dedicated and distinguished educator on January 10, 1981.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sanctuary Entrance — 1980

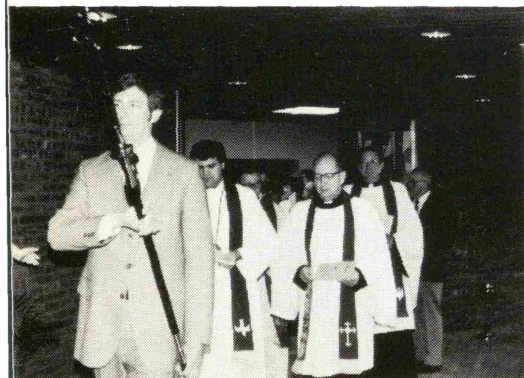


Groundbreaking for the new church-school complex took place in August, 1978



The cornerstone-laying ceremony was held on August 19, 1979

Dedication day processional — November 30, 1980



The choir



Celebrating A Glorious Heritage

The first Sunday of 1982 began a very special year for St. Paul's, the 100th year of its ministry. Festivities began with a "Day of Dedication" of the new school wing of the church-school complex, followed by an Open House. The following day (January 4th) classes were to take place. Not since 1890 had the congregation experienced such togetherness under one roof.

Sunday, January 10, 1982, was set as the official "Kick-off" for the Centennial. It was an auspicious day in St. Paul's history, but also in the Weather Service. The *Chicago Tribune's* headline read: "The Coldest Day in History"; "Arctic Chill Topples Century-old Record." An intense winter was to continue, thereby lessening attendance at the inaugural celebrations.

Prior to this day, plans for the Centennial celebration were made under the direction of the 100th Anniversary Committee. The children were invited to present a theme for the year. The winning theme, "Praising God For St. Paul's First Century," was submitted by Dora Trimolt. The finance committee set up a challenging goal as a "Thank Offering." The first recipient would be Missionary Tom Feiertag's Philippine ministry; the second, the completion of the church-school complex; and the remainder, for the reduction of the building's indebtedness.

Missionary Feiertag attended St. Paul's School and has kept close contact with the

congregation during his ministry. In the fall of 1981, during his furlough, Tom spent considerable time in St. Paul's pulpit, thereby strengthening interest in his mission.

Other areas of commemoration included the publication of a church directory and a history; a display in the Fellowship area; sale of plates by C.A.R.E.; and a prize-winning float in the Munster 4th of July parade. Special events were a monthly service highlighted by a speaker (either a former pastor or a son of the congregation); an organ concert and an outstanding Advent-Christmas music program by the combined choirs. Dr. Oswald Hoffman of the Lutheran Hour concluded the anniversary celebration on December 5, 1982.

A hundred years ago, little known Heinrich Kleeman lit a candle, and although a times it flickered almost to extinction, it flared to bring forth a flame of faith creating a great church.

Martin Luther once said that a Christian's life is one of many crises. So it has been in the life of St. Paul's. Pulsating through Her history has come Her great faith. The faith of a small group of immigrant Germans has become the heritage of a new St. Paul's—now a church of many national and ethnic groups. God grant Her the courage to continue to carry that sword of faith for another century!



"Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone"
Ephesians 2:20



Members of 100th anniversary committee

Arnold Schmidt, Chairman

Harry Schmidt

Margaret Sabolisice

Edith Rich

Charlotte Dreischerf (called to rest November 6, 1981)

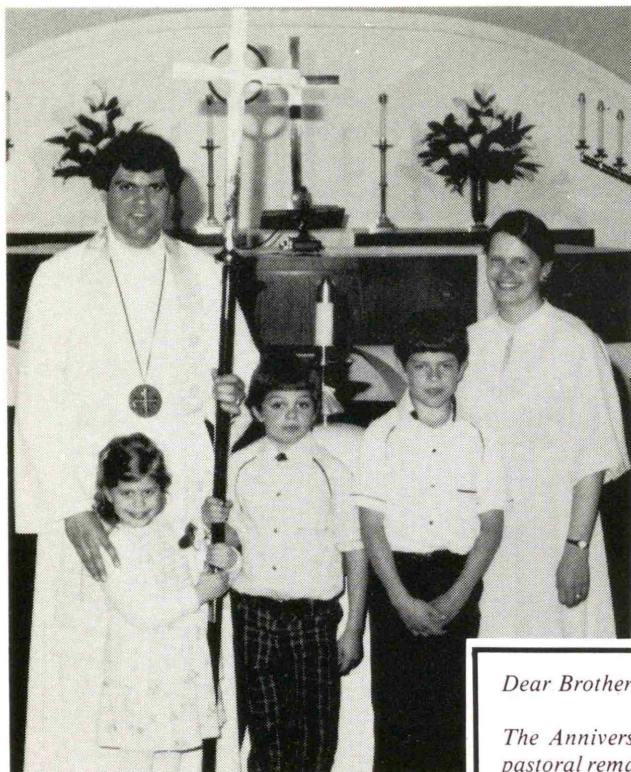
Deaconess Betty Mulholland

Pastor Ronald Moritz



Photographer: Carl Mueller

Displays: Ruth Kooi



Pastor Ronald Moritz and family: Bethany, Joel, Jeremy, and wife Lorelle, in front of the chancel

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Anniversary Committee made the interesting request that I offer pastoral remarks at the end of this volume instead of the traditional place at its beginning. Their thought was that St. Paul's is thankful for its past but our eyes must always be on our future.

Our Lord Jesus Christ had His eyes upon the future when He hung upon the Cross of Calvary. Instead of dwelling upon the past sin of mankind that made His sacrificial death necessary, He chose to look forward to the millions of people who would gain eternal life through Him.

We also look forward. We see the day of the Resurrection when we shall stand face to face with our Savior when He says, "Come to me Ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." We see the day when we can serve God endlessly and tirelessly in His heavenly kingdom. We see the Church Triumphant gathered around God's Throne of Grace.

Yet, while looking forward to an eternity with our Triune God, let us not miss the vision of the Church Militant that must continue to serve and worship the God of our salvation amidst a dying world. Our vision must be of souls for which Christ died who are still to be reached with the Gospel. Our vision must be of missions both at home and abroad. Our vision must be of loving ministry in the Name of Jesus.

All that has gone before in the illustrious history of St. Paul's is lost if we dwell on the past and close our eyes to the present and future. The reason St. Paul's has been blessed with 100 years of service is because it was a congregation with the Gospel Vision.

While thanking God for what has gone before us, let us pray for His spiritual guidance, strength, and courage to meet the challenges that still lie ahead. If it is His will to let this world and our St. Paul's Congregation continue another 100 years, may future generations say of us, "Thank God they, too, were Christians with a Gospel Vision."

In Christ,

Ronald C. Moritz

*Pastor Ronald C. Moritz
Easter Sunday, A.D. 1982*

In the Service of the Lord:

PASTOR RONALD C. MORITZ

The Reverend Ronald C. Moritz was born and raised in Melrose Park, Illinois. He was graduated from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Illinois, in 1968, and completed his theological studies at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, in 1972. Ordained that year, he served six years at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth, Michigan. On January 15, 1978, he was installed as Pastor of St. Paul's to lead the congregation through reorganization and a building program. The pastor's family includes his wife, Lorelle, and their children, Jeremy, Joel and Bethany.

PASTOR EMERITUS, THE REVEREND WALTER F. LICHTSINN, D.D.

Born April 24, 1889.

Graduate of Concordia Sr. College, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri. Married Flora Dreier in 1915. Eight children born to this union.

Installed at St. Paul's June 16, 1918; served 50 years. Served the Church at Large, 38 years.

Called to rest, September 16, 1982, at age 93.



**DEACONESS
BETTY
MULHOLLAND**

Mrs. Glenn Mulholland is St. Paul's first deaconess. Betty assumed her duties in September, 1968. She works with the elderly and shut-ins as liaison with the Pastor and Board of Deacons; also with other parish organizations. She is a 1955 graduate of Valparaiso University; also consecrated as deaconess that year. She and her husband have four children and two grandchildren.

PASTORS OF ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION 1882-1982

Rev. Herman Wunderlich	1878-1885
Rev. G. F. Luebker	Dec. 1885 - June 1889
Rev. F. W. Herzberger	July 1889 - June 1899
Rev. W. H. T. Dau	June 1899 - May 1905
Rev. Theo. Claus	June 1905 - April 1918
Rev. Walter F. Lichtsinn	June 1918 - Aug. 3, 1958
relieved of primary work until July 21, 1963	
official retirement; Emeritus title	
Rev. E. W. Sonstroem	Sept. 1927 - May 1932
Rev. Walter E. Ruehrdanz	Aug. 1949 - July 1953
Rev. Earl E. Weis	May 1954 - Sept. 29, 1968
Rev. Wilbern Michalk	June 20, 1963 - Aug. 26, 1972
Rev. Willard Niederbrach	Dec. 7, 1969 - Dec. 1971
Rev. Luther Russert	Nov. 26, 1972 - July 31, 1976
Rev. Ronald Moritz	January 1, 1978 -

STUDENT VICARS SERVING ST. PAUL'S

Robert Rippe	1937-38
Walter E. Lichtsinn	1938-39
Melvin Tassler	1939-40
Gerhard Leverenz	1940-41
Curtis Schleicher	1942-43

Robert Niemitz	1945-46
Erdman Frenk	1947-48
Steven Melvin	Aug. 1973 - Mar. 1974
Dale Bond	Aug. 1974 - Aug. 1975
Jeffery Kinnery	Aug. 1975 - Aug. 1976
Roger Kilponen	Aug. 1976 - Aug. 1977
Walter Schoenfuhs	Aug. 1977 - Aug. 1978
Thomas Boehm	Aug. 1982 -

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATION WHO ENTERED THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH

PASTORS

Frederick Kreutz	John Kuchenbecker
Theodore Andres	William H. Dau
William Martin	Walter E. Lichtsinn
J. A. Duchow	John Bauermeister
Oscar Fedder	Paul Kritsch
Herbert Claus	David Schoop

TEACHERS

H. Kreutz	Marlene Atkinson
Walter Rakow	Candace Riddle
Gerhard Neubauer	Barbara King
Robert Niemitz	Dorothy Lichtsinn
Marie Berg	Timothy Graves
H. Allen Herbst	Judith Millies
Edward Rose	Gail Seehausen
Rhonda Brandt	Doris Mueller
Janet Kritsch	Judy Meissler
Pamela Florian	Walter Claassen

Rev. Tom Feiertag, son of St. Paul's School, Missionary in the Philippines. His ministry there is the recipient of one year's support from the 100th Anniversary Thank Offering.

St. Paul's Day School

PRESENT FACULTY

Loren Rehmer, Principal	Mrs. Russell Dykman
David Brandt	William Hoffman
Mrs. Marilyn Brandt	Miss Kim Mullen
Donald Buuck	Mrs. Gerald Witt
Mrs. Lois Buuck	Mrs. Thomas Boehm

FORMER AND PRESENT TEACHERS SERVING MORE THAN 10 YEARS

A. F. W. Fedder	1892-1904
John Merkling	1895-1905
C. W. Linsenmann	1904-1920
H. C. Meier	1912-1927
H. E. Schroer	1912-1940
J. A. List	1921-1938
H. H. Beiderwieden	1924-1948
K. W. Mueller	1927-1949
Miss Marie Berg	1945-1955
A. E. Schleef	1954-1967
W. H. Beckmann	1938-1980
David Brandt	1954-
William Hoffman	1954-1972; 1976-

1981-82 SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

Donald Buuck, Superintendent	
Patricia White	Jan Watson
Linda Schuster	Kim Mullen
Sandra Crowley	Candace Riddle
Bernadine Glinski	Michael Sullivan
Deborah Brandt	Carl Mueller
Kathryn Camp	Marilynda Brandt
Lorrelle Moritz	Laine Sullivan
Kris Bruesehoff	Susan Buuck
Lynn Peterson	

St. Paul's Cares for its Past and Present

Of the 22 founders of the congregation, Adam Ebert lived the longest. His son, Alwin, at eighty-five, remains the only direct living heir of any of the founders. Alwin's keen memory has supplied much information for this history book.

Oldest living member of the congregation at its centennial was Mr. Henry Boyer. Called to rest, April 18, 1982, at age 98.

Oldest living continuous member is Mrs. Ann Schreiber Henning (John). Mrs. Henning was born in Hammond February 19, 1892; baptized at St. Paul's on March 5, 1892; confirmed there April 16, 1905—77 years ago. Mrs. Henning, now 90, was also married in St. Paul's on May 1, 1925.

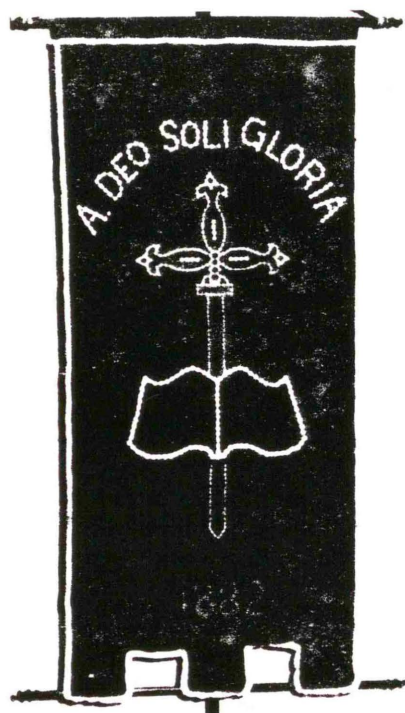
The couple married in St. Paul's, qualifying for the oldest category, is Mr. and Mrs. Christian Herhold (nee Margaret Neuman). They were married May 1, 1924, by Pastor Lichtsinn, making the centennial year their 58th anniversary.

The official Records of the congregation begin with the year 1883. The first children were baptized on March 4th—namely, Christine Busselmann, Emma Roepke, Reinhold Jonas. The first catechumen class was confirmed April 27, 1884. It comprised thirteen children.

The first marriage recorded is that of Carl Koenig and Dora Buehring on May 3, 1884. The first burial was that of the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. William Lorenz, which died December 30, 1883.

Membership figures at each quarter century

	BAPTIZED	COMMUNICANT
25 years	1,650	983
50 years	1,640	1,215
75 years	1,745	1,328
100 years	1,348	1,025



Explanation of Anniversary Banner

The one hundred year Anniversary banner combines two traditions within its design. The older, more familiar of these, is the symbol of the Apostle Paul—the open Scriptures overlaying an unsheathed sword. This symbol is usually displayed with the motto of St. Paul: "Spiritus Gladius" ("the Sword of the Spirit"). It is shown this way in the center panel of the circular chancel window.

The second, less well known tradition, has to do with a famous Lutheran, Johann Sebastian Bach. In full acknowledgement of God's great gift to him as the source of his music, and lest he fall victim to human pride, Bach postscripted each of his finished works with the phrase "Ad Deo Soli Gloria" ("to God Alone be the Glory"). It is a particularly fitting sentiment for St. Paul's congregation, as we reflect upon the accomplishments of 100 years, lest we forget the source of our blessings and fall victim to human pride.

Ad Deo Soli Gloria. Amen.

Nikki Kutansky,
Designer and Maker
of
100 Year Anniversary
Banner.

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 Matthew, Paitra, Rachel and Adam
Albert Guenther Fehlberg
Mrs. Martha A. Ferguson

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Mrs. Donald A. Hall
Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hamel
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Loydd, Cheryl, Kelly and Jenna Hayes
 (Wisner Decorating Company, Inc.)
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Mr. and Mrs. Martin Heidtman
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Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hesterman and Family
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hesterman
Mrs. Louraine L. Heuer, Bill, Bob
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Walter and Marie Kiesling
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Mr. and Mrs. Fred Krause
Eleanor E. Kritsch
Mrs. Irene Kritsch
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Krop — Rick's Grill
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Helen and Rudolph Kutansky

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